Ute-Ouray Councils Note Progress In Terminating Federal Wardship

Progress was noted early last week of the task of liquidating the assets of Ute-Ouray Indians for termination of federal wardship

The report was given to the National Congress of American Indians in convention at the Newhouse Hotel

Speaker was Reginald O Curry business manager of Uintah Ouray (full blood) Tribal council, and Mrs Lulu Murdock president Affiliated Ute Citizens (mixed bloods)

Mr Curry reported that the group rolls show 1,314 full blood and 496 mixed blood Utes entitled to a share of the proceeds

He said 'The Ute tribe is going ahead with its planning though a little at variance with the Bureau of Indian Affairs over various interpretations of the legislation We still have to get around to a plan of dividing the land which is now being inventoried"

Mrs Murdock expressed no doubt that the assets will be divided on a friendly basis but after division of the two groups is made, the assets will have to be divided among individuals, which may take years

"Meanwhile, Affiliated Ute Citizens trying to look forward to the day when its members will set forth as a new type pioneers' group"

Mrs Murdock continued "To others facing similar problems I would suggest a clause in your law protecting treaty (fishing and hunting) rights And, if possible, keep your lands in trust status, because, if we are not careful, we will have all white men sitting on the board of directors doing business with the full-bloods"

Similar reports were made by James G Frechette, Wisconsin, chairman of the Menominee Advisory committee, Jesse L. Kirk and Boyd J Jackson, Oregon, members of the Klamath Executive committee

The Ute Tribe was host to the several hundred delegates at a picnic supper at State Fair grounds